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NOTES.

AN Association for the Promotion of Profit Sharing has recently been formed in New York city. The U. S. Labor Commissioner, Carroll D. Wright, is president, the two vice-presidents being F. A. Walker, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Mr. N. O. Nelson, a prominent manufacturer in St. Louis. The secretary and treasurer is Nicholas P. Gilman, West Newton, Mass., author of the well-known work on *Profit Sharing*. The association brings together men of science and men of business, who desire the extension of profit sharing and kindred systems of uniting the interests of employers and employees. It is their intention to establish a bureau of information for the benefit of firms interested in profit sharing, and by various publications and addresses before commercial and other clubs to promote the discussion and extension of this industrial reform.

DR. A. G. WARNER'S first report as Superintendent of Charities for the District of Columbia contains an instructive discussion of the principle of public subsidies to private charities. In the District, as in many states, large sums have been voted to the aid of charities under private control. As elsewhere, the amount has grown from year to year; and while about three fourths of the income of the institutions is derived from public funds, the state has no voice in their management. While Dr. Warner does not oppose the principle of subsidies, he protests vigorously against its general application. It would appear from his arguments that there are very few cases in which the subsidies in their present form may safely be applied. If the principle is not to be abandoned, public officials should have control of the ad-

missions to subsidized institutions, and provision should be made for thorough and constant supervision.

A new society for the study of social science and existing social problems, has been established at Ghent, under the name *Société Liberale pour l'Étude des Sciences et des Oeuvres Sociales*. The aim of the association, as officially defined, is to draw up a statement of the economic condition of the city of Ghent, to determine impartially what is simply transitory in the existing conditions and to study the possible reforms. The methods pursued in the attainment of this end are to be personal investigations, the publication of treatises on social questions, the organization of courses of lectures, etc. A number of prominent men, not only from Belgium, but also from France, Holland and Germany, have consented to deliver lectures before the society during the present year.

The first number of a new periodical devoted to Political and Social Science called the *Socialpolitisches Centralblatt* has been published at Berlin. The publication appears weekly in quarto and is edited by Dr. Heinrich Braun. Its aim differs from that of the scientific periodical upon the one hand, which appeals to a limited class of specialists only, and from the more popular forms of periodical literature upon the other, where the discussion of social questions is biased by party predilections. Recognizing the existence of parties as necessary and advantageous the editor aims to bring to expression the views of the sincere and capable leaders of all parties. When an economic problem presents itself for solution the material of every kind necessary for the formation of an independent opinion will be submitted to the reader. Among other matter, the neglected but often worthy work embodied in the debates of the legislative bodies will be utilized. It is proposed to maintain in the weekly publication the high standard of the well known *Archiv für soziale Gesetzgebung und Statistik* which is under the same management.